

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 EB-03 TRSE-00 AID-05 L-02 IO-03

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 XMB-01

OPIC-02 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 OIC-01

PRS-01 H-01 FEA-01 INT-01 /054 R

DRAFTED BY AF/EPS:RBDUNCAN

APPROVED BY EB/IFD/ODF:REBENEDICK

AA/AFR:DADAMS (DRAFT)

TREAS:BZINMAN

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P 092250Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, AFDB

SUBJECT: CONTACTS OF AFDB PRESIDENT LABIDI IN WASHINGTON

REF: (A) ABIDJAN 8087; (B) ABIDJAN 8108

PARIS FOR HELMAN

1. LABIDI'S DISCUSSIONS WITH TREASURY ASSISTANT SECRETARY COOPER FOCUSED ON (A) PROSPECTS FOR USG CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT FUND (B) USG OBSERVOR PARTICIPATION IN PARIS DONOR'S MEETING AND (C) AFDB ACCESS TO ARAB OIL MONEY.

2. LABIDI WAS INFORMED THAT HOUSE BANKING AND CURRENCY COMMITTEE HAS DEFERRED CONSIDERATION OF AFDB DEVELOPMENT FUND BILL UNTIL AFTER RECESS FOR NOVEMBER ELECTIONS. LABIDI WAS ASSURED OF ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT FOR BILL AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT TIME.

3. LABIDI WAS TOLD USG INTENDS SEND OBSERVOR DELEGATION TO OCT. 24 MEETING IN PARIS TO DEMONSTRATE USG INTEREST IN AFDB, BUT DELEGATION WOULD BE UNABLE DISCUSS INCREASE IN USG CONTRIBUTION IN VIEW CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF ISSUE. FORMAL RESPONSE TO LABIDI INVITATION TO OCT. 24 MEETING PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED IN LETTERS FROM COOPER AND ENDERS. PLEASE INFORM LABIDI THAT USG OBSERVOR DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE RICHARD BENEDICK, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT FINANCE, BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (STATE); ROBERT DUNCAN, DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC POLICY STAFF, BUREAU OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS (STATE); HOWARD HELMAN, AID LIAISON OFFICER, EMBASSY PARIS; AND A TREASURY REPRESENTATIVE.

4. RE ARAB OIL FUNDS, LABIDI SAID AFDB HAD TECHNICALLY RECEIVED ARAB FUNDS WHICH ARE BEING HELD IN SOME KIND OF AN ACCOUNT IN CAIRO. MODALITIES FOR AFDB ACCESS TO THESE

FUNDS, HOWEVER, HAD NOT YET BEEN AGREED UPON IN DISCUSSIONS WITH ARABS.

5. CONGRESSMAN YOUNG GAVE CONGRESSIONAL RECEPTION FOR LABIDI.

6. LABIDI UNABLE KEEP APPOINTMENT WITH ADAMS AND BLAKE DUE TO ALLEGED CONFUSION OVER LOCALS. HE DID NOT, THEREFORE, HAVE OPPORTUNITY RAISE STATUS OF \$10 MILLION AID LOAN. LOAN PROSPECTS ARE UNFAVORABLE FOR AT LEAST REMAINDER OF CY 74 DUE TO CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF PENDING AID LEGISLATION. INGERSOLL

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